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HYMN FOR THE DAY OF ATONEMENT.

While yet we dwell on earth
God watches us, to whom his word gave birth,
And waits, in love and graciousness,
For penitence, that he our latter end may bless.

Can man be provèd righteous in the sight
Of God, to whom all hidden thoughts are known ?
Yea, if his soul repent before his light
Is quenched—and thus alone—
Can he gain pardon and for sin atone.

Even darkness hideth nought from God on high,
The evil deeds man holds invisible
Will at the end against him testify.
Therefore for him 't is well,
Confessing them, guilt's shadow to dispel.

Behold, the heaven of heavens is not pure
In the eyes of God: how much less man, defiled
By shame and sin, whom guilty thoughts allure.
Let him, the oft-beguiled,
Then muse on this, ere earth reclaim her child.

His treasured gold will not, in death's dark hour,
Ransom his soul; but if through life he cling
To mercy and to righteousness, their power
Will his redemption bring,
And he shall see the glory of the King.

'Tis good for man the law's mild yoke to bear,
With love and awe its statutes to obey,
For his oft-faltering steps it will prepare
The path of right alway,
And lead him through the grave to heavenly day.

Lord, in thy hand as potter's clay are we;
Do thou sustain us on life's troubled shore,

And fill our hearts with love and fear of thee,
So that we may adore
Thy name, and sing thy praises evermore.

While yet we dwell on earth
God watches us, to whom his word gave birth,
And waits, in love and graciousness,
For penitence, that he our latter end may bless.

ALICE LUCAS.

MERCY AND PARDON.

Come, let us bow and bend the knee
And seek, with souls contrite
And hearts uplifted, ceaselessly
God's mercy infinite.

All we like sheep have gone astray,
But he will hear us when we pray,
So that we yet may find to-day
 Mercy and pardon.

For though our sins are numberless,
And daily we his law transgress,
Yet hope inspires the prayerful song:
“Unto the Lord our God belong
 Mercy and pardon.”

God's loving mercies far exceed
The measure of our sin;
Then let us seek them in our need,
Our shelter there to win.
For though the wrath of God be just,
Yet, bending humbly to the dust,
We still may gain, in loving trust,
 Mercy and pardon.

Come, we will hasten penitent
To pray to him omniscient,